

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A fastening system comprising a stud and a sheet of cover material;

the stud being formed with a groove, and

the sheet of cover material being formed with a hole and two non-aligned tangential slits, the slits extending away from respective intersections with that diverge with increasing distance from the hole,

wherein the hole has a boundary, and a part of the boundary of the hole which is a continuation of the tangential slits includes part of a first circle;

wherein a remaining part of the boundary of the hole forms part of a second circle of greater radius than said first circle; and

~~in respective directions which are not in alignment with one another;~~

whereby, in use, the stud is pushed through the hole until the groove in the stud snaps into engagement with the hole in the sheet of cover material.

Claims 2 - 5 (canceled).

6. (original): A fastening system according to claim 1, wherein the stud is of metal and the groove is an annular groove.

7. (original): A fastening system according to claim 6, wherein the stud is elongate and has a annular groove near each end, and the sheet of cover material is folded and has said hole and two slits on one side of said fold and has another of said hole and two slits on the other side of said fold whereby, in use, each of the annular grooves snaps into engagement with a respective one of each of the holes.

8. (currently amended): A fastening system according to claim 7, wherein the stud ~~passes~~ is configured to be capable of passing, in use, through pre-punched holes in paper stationery located between the annular grooves in the stud.

9. (new): A fastening system according to claim 1, wherein the stud is elongate and has a annular groove near each end, and the sheet of cover material is folded and has said hole and two slits on one side of said fold and has another of said hole and two slits on the other side of said fold whereby, in use, each of the annular grooves snaps into engagement with a respective one of each of the holes.